

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 BIB-01 IO-10 /065 W

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O R 131342Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0730

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

CINC EUR VAHINGEN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

UNCLAS BONN 09543

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, GW

SUBJECT: FRG PRESS STATEMENT ON WIRETAPPING OF CDU  
OFFICIALS

1. AT HIS NOON PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 13, GOVERNMENT  
PRESS SPOKESMAN BOELLING MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT  
CONCERNING THE STERN ARTICLE ON THE WIRETAPPING OF A  
PHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN CDU OFFICIALS KOHL AND  
BIEDENKOPF: BEGIN QUOTE

"THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS NO LESS AFFECTED BY THE FACT  
THAT A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MINISTER PRESIDENT  
KOHL AND CDU SECRETARY-GENERAL BIEDENKOPF WAS ILLEGALLY  
TAPPED IN OCTOBER 1974 THAN ARE THE TWO POLITICIANS.  
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKES THIS OPERATION VERY  
SERIOUSLY. ALREADY YESTERDAY IT INITIATED THE FIRST  
STEPS TO INVESTIGATE AS QUICKLY AND AS THOROUGHLY AS  
POSSIBLE THIS SERIOUS VIOLATION AGAINST THE CONFI-  
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DENTIALITY OF LETTERS, MAIL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WHICH IS GUARANTEED IN ARTICLE 10 OF THE BASIC LAW. THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR AND THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR WERE INFORMED ALREADY YESTERDAY EVENING OF THE FACTS KNOWN AT THAT TIME. HEAD OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY SCHUELLER IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED MINISTER PRESIDENT KOHL AND PROFESSOR BIEDENKOPF YESTERDAY EVENING. THE COMMITTEE OF STATE SECRETARIES FOR QUESTIONS OF CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS AND SECURITY MET AT THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY THIS MORNING AT 11:00 O'CLOCK UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. SCHUELLER TO ANALYZE THE FACTS KNOWN SO FAR AND TO DISCUSS MEASURES FOR CLEARING UP THIS OPERATION." END QUOTE

2. BOELLING EMPHASIZED STRONGLY THAT THE OPERATION HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION, AND STATED THAT IT COULD ABSOLUTELY BE EXCLUDED THAT GERMAN AUTHORITIES HAD ANY HAND IN THE MATTER. AS NO REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE FROM ANY GERMAN SOURCE, IT HAD TO BE A MATTER OF AN ILLEGAL ACTION.

3. BOELLING STATED THAT THE ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION TO STATE SECRETARY MAERKER (COMMENT: MAERKER HAD ALSO RECEIVED A COPY OF THE REPORT THAT WAS MAILED TO STERN) WAS POSTED IN KAISERSLAUTERN. ASKED ABOUT PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING A CONNECTION WITH THE CIA, BOELLING SAID: "HEAD OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY SCHUELLER INFORMED THE AMERICAN EMBASSY YESTERDAY, IN LIGHT OF SUCH HINTS. I EMPHATICALLY WARN YOU IN ANSWERING YOUR QUESTION AGAINST ANY SPECULATION SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A CONNECTION HERE; THERE IS NO BASIS FOR SUCH SPECULATION." IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUESTIONS ALONG THIS LINE, BOELLING REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT SPECULATION OF THIS KIND WAS DEVOID OF ANY FOUNDATION.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 JUN 1975  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, GE, US, (KOHL, HELMUT), (BOELLING, KLAUS), (BIEDENKOPF, KURT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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